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Negroes Play First Time In Bridge League Event

New York, March 22 (AP)—Negroes competed in an American Contract Bridge League event last night for the first time in the league's 21 years. Four Negro women from the Municipal Bridge League played as a record number of 29 industrial teams entered the two-session competition. They were Geraldine Gibson, Doris Brooke, Kay Gregoire, and Elair Morris, all of New York City.

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Dothan, Ala., Votes Negro Pool Approval

DOTHAN, Ala.—By a slim majority of 197 votes, citizens approved a recreation program here March 1 for both Negro and white groups. The vote was 122 to 103. Swimming pools and playgrounds will be built out of the \$100,000 appropriation.

Morris B. Malone, bank official, was elected to a position on the City Commission in a surprise show of strength in a field of five candidates.

Alabama

For Free Swimming Programs

D. C. Recreation Board Insists On Segregation at Six Pools

The District Recreation Board yesterday voted 3 to 2 to withdraw its support from the free swimming pool program at six GSI-operated pools unless it is allowed to continue its segregation policy.

Notification of the board's action goes to Government Services, Inc., today for action by its board of trustees. They must decide whether to grant the Recreation Board ultimatum or stick by the nonsegregation policy which the Interior Department has laid down in its contracts with GSI.

An Interior Department official said the department was prepared to take over operation of the pools if GSI turns back their contract, but will have to ask Congress for the money.

GSI now operates six pools. Of these, the Recreation Board has segregated programs for white children at Takoma, McKinley, Anacostia and East Potomac. It maintains similar program for Negroes at Francis and Banneker pools. The programs are in the morning. Afternoon GSI operates the pools for an admission fee.

Yesterday's action by the Recreation Board followed withdrawal of four Recreation Department paid life guards at McKinley Tech pool when a group of 45 children, mostly Negroes, appeared for a 90-minute free swimming period at 10 a. m. The pool was used for swimming lessons from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m.

Ousters Asked In Segregation At Play Sites

President T. H. Man yesterday was asked to remove members of the District Board of Recreation "who are opposed to eliminating racial barriers" in playgrounds.

The request was made by the District branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a letter signed by Stephen G. Spottswood, president.

The letter urged also that the Department of the Interior maintain control over all recreation

areas now within its jurisdiction "until all racial barriers are removed by the Board of Recreation."

The Recreation Board's recent decision to continue segregation in District playgrounds "is in direct opposition to your admirable civil rights program," the NAACP letter asserted.

D. C. Recreation Board Rejects Segregation Ban

Journalist Guide, Norfolk, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — The District of Columbia Recreation Board in a three hour meeting last Tuesday rejected, by a vote of 4 to 2, an offer by an Interior Department to turn over recreational facilities in the District of Columbia, including golf courses and swimming pools, if the Recreational Board completely eliminated from its rules a requirement of racial segregation in their use.

The board, however, agreed to consider the proposal again at a meeting of its by-laws committee and also at another full board meeting within a week.

At the same time, Julius A. Krug, Secretary of the Interior, issued a statement outlining the conditions under which Interior recreational facilities here would be turned over to the District of Columbia Recreation Board.

REACH AGREEMENT

Mr. Krug disclosed that he and the three District of Columbia commissioners had agreed upon the following language to replace the existing by-laws requiring segregation in the use of public facilities in Washington:

"The Board will make every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in public recreation in such sequence and at such rate of progression, as may be consistent with the public interest, public order, and effective administration. The Board by majority vote of the whole Board shall from time to time issue instructions to the superintendent to implement this policy."

Mr. Krug said his proposal "will not permit the imposition of segregation on any facilities now operating on a non-segregated basis and will foster steady progress toward the elimination of segregation in all other public recreation areas."

The Interior Department's proposal was not made public until after the meeting of the Recreation Board out of courtesy to those members who were not present at the conference which the In-

KRUG EXPLAINS CHANGE

Explaining the proposed change in the rules of the recreation board, Mr. Krug said:

"In proposing this change the Interior Department sought to make progress in the President's Civil Rights Program, not only on park lands administered by the Department but throughout the City of Washington generally."

"The proposal permits a single, unified system on which all remaining segregation can be eliminated as soon as possible and practical."

"Non-segregation remains the firm policy of the National Park Service and the Interior Department. There will be no backward steps of any sort. There will be constant forward steps."

New Recreation Center For Negroes in Tampa

Tampa, Fla. (AP) A new recreation center for Negroes of this city is now under construction. It is being sponsored by Recreation, Inc., an organization recently formed by colored leaders of the City, with Dr. Reche Williams, Jr., as chairman of the Board of Directors.

The Center is located in a beautiful section formerly known as Oak Springs Park. The development will include a stone block and steel auditorium and gymnasium, a modern swimming pool, a lounge, tennis courts, shuffle board courts, snack bar, sand play pens for small children.

The gymnasium will seat two thousand people as spectators witnessing basket ball, indoor tennis, boxing, roller skating and dancing. Mayer Curtis Hixon has fully endorsed the project.

American Beach, Florida, Offers Land Opportunities

AMERICAN BEACH, Florida—Bordering several miles on the Atlantic Ocean is beautiful AMERICAN BEACH, where smooth driving is permissible daily along the Beach front into the nearby City of Fernandina, Florida, on the North and to the Fishing Inlets and Nassau Sound on the South.

The Florida State Highway Department in cooperation with the Fernandina Port Authority is now constructing a \$16,000,000.00 Bridge and Highway Project bordering American Beach Properties on the West, and providing a 35-minute drive over a scenic highway from Jacksonville to the Beach.

This ideal location was found by the late Dr. A. L. Lewis, who foresaw the possibility of an all-Colored Township development which would serve not only as an enticing Vacation Spot, but an all-year-round residential site, due to the excellent climate, water and recreational facilities. The Afro-American Pension Bureau, Owner and Developer of American Beach, has spent Thousands of Dollars in the building of this modern, restful environment. At present a 22-Apartment MOTEL is being constructed for the use in 1950 of persons not desiring to buy and build on their own property.

Last week, announcement was made by J. T. Betsch, Executive Vice-President, that sixty (60) choice Ocean front lots have just been made ready for purchase by the public. All of these lots are high and dry and have been leveled and surveyed with permanent monuments establishing boundaries and lines adjacent to streets. A Time-Payment Plan for those desiring lots has been arranged.

Any inquiries concerning this Project may be addressed to the Afro-American Pension Bureau, 103 F Union Street, Jacksonville, Fla.

Marietta's Good Program

The Constitution
A few months ago residents of Marietta voted a \$675,000 bond issue—\$400,000 on a hospital, \$200,000 for schools and \$75,000 for recreation.

When Mariettans approved that \$75,000 recreation item they did so knowing that a large part of it would be used for play facilities for Negroes, principally a swimming pool.

That pool for Negroes is finished now, ready for use this Summer. *9-28-49*

In addition, the city has completed for the Negroes an athletic field and it has set up new playgrounds for them.

The Marietta Junior Welfare League has established a branch library for Negro children.

White and colored population working together have planned, built and equipped a 20-bed Negro hospital that is now in operation.

Segregation laws are still in force in Marietta as they are throughout the South.

But the white residents of Marietta evidently believe in meeting the Negroes half way when it comes to an equal right to recreation, to better health, to better living and to happiness. *Now.*

That's the kind of "rights" program that needs universal support. It is simple and easy to do—requiring only the will to do it. *9-28-49*

Negro Recreation Plot Offered Yardville Group

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
Intense public interest in civic improvement aroused by the three Atlanta Yardville projects may bring to Atlanta another public playground. to finish the project because of high prices.

Land valued at approximately \$10,000 in the heart of a crowded Negro residential area yesterday was offered to the Atlanta Yardville Committee as a gift from C. W. Orr, Negro owner and operator of the Fraser Street Market.

All the Yardville Committee has to do is agree to have a playground for Negro children constructed in the area, which is two and one-half acres in size and bounded by a rippling stream on one side and by Hedge Road, Bush Mountain, Oakland Avenue, S. W. on the other. *Sun. 4-24-49*

"We definitely will find some means of working with Orr on this matter," Mrs. Lucille Huffman, Chairman of the Atlanta Yardville Committee, stated, "and feel his interest in the proposed playground is indeed a fine thought and gesture."

Information regarding the offer has been turned over to the Yardville Development and Locations subcommittee where the proposal, which will serve more than 500 children in the neighborhood, will be studied.

Orr, who resides at 639 Fraser St., S. E., said he had plans for building a community center for the younger Negro children and teen-agers. "They have no place for recreation," he said, "and I thought if I could receive help to build this center in materials from Atlanta business and professional men, my plans for helping Negro youth which have been so long postponed because of lack of adequate finances, will become a reality."

Labor for the youth hall already has been promised by the high school students as well as grown-ups in the area, so it is a question of getting the materials which now are too high for us to afford, he added.

As a kid on a tenant farm near Covington, he asserted, he had always promised himself that if the Lord ever enabled him to get any property, he would use it to help children of his race.

"I have long wanted to do this, and already have built a few swings and chairs for the kids to use, but always have been unable

"And when I read of the Atlanta Yardville Committee and that they were interested in our race and in improving living conditions among Atlanta's colored people, I knew the Lord had answered my prayers for help to assist the hundreds of kids in this area," he said.

The only thing he wants to reserve in the area is a spring which boils out of the sands in this wooded area, for, according to Orr, more than 20 families from the neighborhood bring their buckets to get water. *Sun. 4-24-49*

"It is their only source of supply, and I do not want to take away from these people who cannot afford city water their means of procuring this necessity."

"They have to walk, some of them, almost half a mile in rain, cold or sleet, to get the water for household use, and I certainly do not want to add to their labors," he concluded, adding that most of the time kids 12 years of age or under carried the buckets.



OFFERS \$10,000 IN LAND FOR hood children whom he wants to Atlanta or to whom ever will promise help by securing recreational facility to follow through with the development of Atlanta. Orr, who lives in the city, has offered to build a playground on a lot near his property near the Bush Mountain School, to the city of Atlanta for them.

Bush Mountain Residents Given Playground Gift

Church Groups

Initiate Move

For Recreation

BY C. W. GREENLEA

Gomer W. Orr, Bush Mountain grocer who several months ago made a vain effort to give away \$10,000 worth of land, was a big happier Friday after workmen had installed swings and playground equipment for the Bush Mountain kids. Mr. Orr owns a grocery store at 639 Fraser Street S. E. but lives in Bush Mountain.

He had offered the land to the city of Atlanta "for use as a park for Negro children," but his offer had been rejected by the city parks commission.

Previously he had asked several white groups to take the land and sponsor a park for the children. Members of the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and a West End Business Men's Club, all white groups had each in turn toyed with the idea and turned Orr down.

Finally, Mr. Orr had decided to keep the land himself and get Negro churches and organizations to contribute to the park project.

Allen Temple A. M. E. Church, Rev. R. H. Porter, pastor, and the Ladd Street Methodist Church, Rev. H. L. Fisher, pastor have led the organizations with substantial contributions.

After some difficulty with the zoning commission, Orr's land was zoned for business and playground use, he told the Atlanta World, and he went ahead with his program in a small way.

Citizens and churches contributed amounts from twenty-five cents to one-hundred dollars to the project which has now reached the point of a large set of swings and a small pavillion.

AREA FOR PUBLIC

Orr has extended an invitation to all churches in the Atlanta area to use the playground land for their outings. Wooded terrain, ball space, and picnic areas make the Orr property an ideal nearby spot for church and club outings.

The Bush Mountain section is located in the fourth ward division

of Atlanta, but citizens agree that it is perhaps the most neglected section within the city limits.

Recently, the Fairview Terrace Civic League, influential fourth ward unit of the Atlanta Negro Voters League headed by Prof. G. L. Chandler, voted to expand its organization to include the Bush Mountain area. C. J. Jackson represents the area in the Voters League.

NO SCHOOL TOILETS

Bush Mountain citizens point out that the Orr property is the only recreational facility in the section. There are no paved streets, no street lights, and no city water.

Even the Bush Mountain city school, operated by the Atlanta Board of Education, does not have inside toilets or running water.

At its meeting a week ago, the Atlanta Negro Voters League adopted a resolution to "help the Bush Mountain citizens with their community problems."

Orr said Friday that contributions for the playground area are still welcomed declaring that it will take about \$4,000 to make a first class play area at Bush Mountain.



BUSH MOUNTAIN KIDS CELEBRATE — C. W. Orr left, Bush Mountain Grocer, rejoices with a group of kids over the installation of playground swings on Orr's land. Orr had offered to give the \$10,000 plot to anyone, including the city of Atlanta and several white business and Women's Clubs, if they would "make a playground out of it for Negro children", Orr's offer was turned down, however, and he asked churches and club groups to help him with the project.

C. W. Orr Gives Playground, Youth Hall Planned Next

More than 10 acres of Negro playground at 971 Oakland Dr., S. W., will be open for inspection from 3 to 6 p. m. Sunday afternoon by C. W. Orr, owner of the Fraser Street Market.

The 10½-acre plot of land situated in a crowded Negro district has been opened by Orr "to provide recreational facilities for Negro children and teen-agers who otherwise would have no place to play."

Orr has bought swings and an old-fashioned merry-go-round for the playground and is working toward building a youth hall. Atlantans are invited to inspect the new park Sunday afternoon.

New Faculty Members

Three new faculty members have been appointed in the Department of Fine Arts at Spelman College, and Miss Grace Preston, formerly of the business office, has been named Assistant Treasurer by the Board of Trustees.

The new faculty members are Miss Ella Mae Bowman and Miss Jaqueline Larkins, both in the Music Department; and Miss Austella Walden, Art Department.

Eight new members have been added to the college staff. They are Miss Esther Mae Perrin, as Assistant in Biology; Mrs. Audrey Daniels Powell, Assistant Librarian; Mrs. Helen Bell Robinson, Assistant in Treasurer's office; Miss Mable S. Dinkins, Administrative Staff; Mrs. Mable Stevens Burton, Mrs. Geraldine Chaney and Mrs. Mary B. Chute, Housemothers.

Mrs. Myrtle Bowers Davis and Henry Thomas have returned to their posts in the history and English Departments after a year's leave of absence to further their studies.

Miss Coragreen Johnstone, of the English Department, has been granted a year's leave of absence to study at the University of Michigan.

Joins Atlanta Faculty

Dr. Esther Milner has joined the faculty of Atlanta University. She will present courses in the field of Human Development and promote the research program of the school according to an announcement by Dr. J. Max Bond, Director of the School of Education.

Pres. Beittel Speaker

A. D. Beittel, President of Tal-

Jadega College, will be the speaker at the Spelman College Vesper Service at 3 p. m. today in Sisters Chapel. All friends of the college are invited.

Pianist at Chapel

A talented young Atlanta pianist, Rebecca Jackson, was featured at the Spelman College Chapel Hour Wednesday. A 1948 graduate of Spelman College, Miss Jackson is now studying and serving as an accompanist to one of the violin teachers at the David Mannes School of Music in New York City.

Seek Girl Scout Camp

More than 500 friends of the Girl Scouts are being asked to contribute toward the development of a camp for the city's Negro children. Mrs. B. E. Mays, Chairman of the Camp Development, has reported.

There are 30,000 Negro girls in Atlanta who would like to participate in the camping program, but at present only two camps with a capacity of 354 residents are open to them.

When \$10,000 is raised toward the program, an anonymous donor will give \$2,500, Mrs. Mays said. A total of \$30,000 is needed to establish an adequate camp, she said.

New Music Director

J. DeKoven Killingsworth, head of the Department of Music of Clark College, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Music by Paul Quinn College at Waco, Texas. Prof. Killingsworth is a former Director of Music for the Board of Education for Negroes of the Methodist General Conference. He taught at Sam Houston College, Rust College and Bricks Junior College before coming to Clark.



Courier-Journal Photo.

ORGANIZATION of a Kentucky chapter of the American Recreation Society was charted yesterday at the Armory. Getting pointers from Wayne C. Sommer, Washington, the society's national secretary, are David W. Gearin, Plymouth Settlement House, and Mrs. George Brakmeier, University of Louisville physical-education instructor, two of the five-member interim committee.

Kentucky Recreation Society Planned At Conference Here

The first step toward organization of a Kentucky Recreation Society was taken here yesterday.

Recreation leaders from public and private agencies throughout the state met at the Armory and selected an organizing committee. The committee, headed by Wayne C. Sommer, Washington, spoke on the functions of the American Recreation Society, of which he is national secretary.

Another speaker, Jack Houlihan, assistant secretary of the Louisville Community Chest, told how the national society works with recreation leaders on the problems of their profession.

The organizing committee will meet here April 15 to consider a slate of officers, a constitution, and the possibility of affiliating with the national society.

Committee members are Dr. Earl Kaufman, University of

Kentucky, chairman; William Moore, Louisville City Recreation Division; Miss Zelma Moore, Lexington; Roy W. Griffin, Louisville Y.M.C.A.; Mrs. Sheridan Brakmeier, University of Louisville; Charles Vettiner, Jefferson County recreation superintendent; Tyston L. Brittner, Lebanon, and David W. Gearin, Plymouth Settlement House, Louisville.

New Orleans Negroes Sue For Recreation

NEW ORLEANS — The use of golf links, picnic grounds, tennis courts and other recreational facilities of the New Orleans city park was petitioned for in Federal District Court by Martin Luther King and other Negroes last week.

\$100,000 Raised

N. C. Teachers Near \$100,000 Goal

RALEIGH, N. C., Saturday, May 21, Dr. William Sharpe, a wealthy brain specialist of New York, will meet the N. C. Teachers at an outing which will take place on the "Hammocks" property, 4,500 acres of recreational area, which he has agreed to give to colored teachers in North Carolina.

Dr. Sharpe originally bequeathed the property to John and Gertrude Hurst, the latter a teacher in Onslow County who has served along with her husband as caretakers of the property for many years.

It was at Mrs. Hurst's insistence that he offered it to her fellow teachers.

\$100,000 SOUGHT

The outing will feature a picnic, boat rides, tours of the estate and a financial roll call of local units. Dr. Sharpe will speak to the group about the future plans for the development of the "Hammocks."

More than \$62,000 has been raised by teachers in less than six months. The drive to raise \$100,000 was launched May 15, 1948. Dr. Sharpe has made the challenge that he will double what the teachers raise by matching dollar for dollar what the teachers report.

This money is being raised, not to buy the "Hammocks," but to make it usable.

May 21 will be the second pilgrimage that the teachers have made to the beautiful "Hammocks" estate. The attendance will be as large as the 2,000 who visited it May 15, last year.

Birmingham Pool Has 5 Instructors

The Coan
Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—This city now has five certified swimming instructors and three senior life guards for its only Negro public swimming pool. *Sal. 7-2-49*

Last week, George Randall, Oscar J. Catlin, L. C. Fisher, and William Beamon satisfied requirements set by the American Red Cross to qualify as swimming instructors. Mrs. Catherine Means, away in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, had qualified the previous year.

Qualifying for senior life guards were Herbert Henderson, Andrew Lusk and Robert Fisher. Henderson will work at the Tuxedo Swimming Pool along with Mr. Randall.

**Arkansas Town Donates
Site for Negro Park**

Chicago Tribune
Sept 11, 1949
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—
(ANP)—A six-acre tract for a Negro park and playground was dedicated on the east end last week by the North Little Rock City Council. In the meantime the council voted out \$3,000 for lights for a softball park in this area.

Segregated Playground Ownership Questioned

The District Recreation Board yesterday voted to seek the Corporation Counsel's opinion on possible court action to determine whether the District or the Federal Government owns the land encompassing some segregated playgrounds.

The board's action, in effect, bypassed a request by Edward J. Kelly, representing the Interior Department's National Capital Parks.

Kelly had asked that the board request a court determination of the question.

Instead, the board voted merely to ask the Corporation Counsel his opinion as to whether it should ask such court action and refused to back down from its contention that the District and not the Federal Government owns the land.

If the Interior position is upheld it would end racial segregation.

Interior along with the Recreation Board, the District Commissioners and the Board of Education are being sued by five Negro mothers for an injunction to permit their children to use any public recreation facility here.

Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender declared Interior Secretary J. A. Krug should himself ask the court for such a determination if he wishes. But, said Wender, the recreation unit is bound by the Corporation Counsel's ruling that the land is District property, paid for by District funds.

Interior's solicitor ruled the land was Federal and Krug asked the Attorney General 14 months ago for a ruling. No ruling has been handed down and it has been hinted none will be. Wender said yesterday "we're naive enough to believe the Attorney General hasn't rendered an opinion in order not to embarrass Interior."

Kelly said the resolution he offered might help "pry" an opinion out of the Justice Department.

Discrimination Barred In Nat'l Capital Park Police

Interior Sec'y Krug Announces FEP Order

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug has announced that an order has been issued directing the National Capital Park Police to eliminate discrimination because of race, color, religion or national origin in all its personnel actions.

The order is part of the findings of a Fair Employment Committee of Department officials appointed under Executive Order No. 9980 to hear complaints of segregation and discrimination against Negro officers of the Park Police.

In respect to the principal Fair Employment grievance, the Park Police force will hereafter make all assignments to cruiser car and cruiser car relief duty without regard to race or color and all such assignments will be on a periodic rotation basis so that no cruiser beat shall be or become a Negro beat. A number of other discriminations in assignment, detail or duty were ordered terminated and several of the original charges were withdrawn.

ACT ON RECOMMENDATION

The corrective action was taken in the approval, by Acting Secretary Oscar L. Chapman, of a report and recommendations by a five-member Fair Employment Committee composed of Department officials.

The Committee, with Dan H. Wheeler, Fair Employment Officer of the Department presiding, heard the grievances in a formal hearing on April 11, with the three complainants, Privates Julius Campbell, Willie C. Mason and Grant Wright and officials of the National Capital Parks and the National Park Service testifying. The police officers appeared as complainants in behalf of all Negro members of the Park Police. The original complaint was also signed by Lloyd W. Chish-

olam, who is no longer a member of the Park Police force. Recommendations were signed by Chairman Wheeler, Carlton Skinner, Director of Information; Harry M. Edelstein, Assistant Solicitor; E. Boykin Hartley, Special Assistant to the Administrator, Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration and Glenn D. Thompson, Chief Personnel Officer, Bureau of Reclamation.

The Park Police is a force of 113 of which 13 are Negroes, including one Negro policewoman. It is responsible for preservation of order and prevention of crime in the National Park areas of Washington, D. C. and nearby Maryland and Virginia.

Unsegregated Recreation

It was with real pleasure that I learned sometime ago of the Board of Recreation's decision to open the 18 tennis courts for the use of all applicants on a first-come-first-served basis regardless of race, creed or color. I am heartened also by the decision of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to remove racial designations from its "master plan," thus clearing the way for the Board of Recreation to make its own decision with regard to the use of playgrounds, school meeting facilities and areas under its control.

People unfortunate enough to live near a playground which is closed to them, because of its racial designation, must spend time and money traveling to some other area. And on grounds of common sense and moral principle a segregated system is undesirable and unjust.

I believe joint use of all recreational facilities is feasible and will contribute to the public welfare. The experience on the Federally controlled recreation areas shows that people of all races are mingling voluntarily and freely without disorder or friction—also in private places of recreation such as Griffith Stadium, Uline Arena and Constitution Hall. Now that the way has been opened, I earnestly hope that the Board of Recreation will move forward courageously to end segregation in all facilities under its control.

CYNTHIA B. ANTHONSEN.
Washington.

Quakers' Aid Offer Accepted

Nonsegregation to Get Test At 2 Playgrounds Next Week

By Chalmers M. Roberts
Post Reporter

Despite pressure to end segregation in all its activities, the Recreation Board is expected next Tuesday to set up an experimental program of two nonsegregated playgrounds.

The latest call for a complete end to segregation came yesterday from Assistant Interior Secretary C. Girard Davidson. He released a letter sent Tuesday to Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender which said Davidson assumes the board "will now completely eliminate racial segregation."

Basis of this and other similar letters was the action a week ago of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in eliminating all racial designations from its recreation system map.

Davidson said representatives of the Recreation Board stated the board was "compelled" by the planning commission designations to continue segregation.

Wender last night would not comment on this latest exchange with Davidson. But it is known he is not the only board member who feels there are other legal justifications than the map for segregated playgrounds.

has seen fit to take this action, which is in keeping with the President's civil rights program. This leaves it squarely up to the Recreation Board whether or not they will eliminate segregation in recreation here.

Asked whether the action was taken because of the recently announced policy of the Interior Department on nonsegregated parklands here, General Grant said yesterday:

"No, we are simply taking these designations off the map." He said the resolution "explains itself."

General Grant said that he did not think the action of the NCPPC would materially affect the disposition of Interior Solicitor Mastin G. White's opinion, now before Attorney General Tom Clark, in which White stated that the Federal Government could impose conditions, including a ban against segregation on use of 62 playground properties purchased with Capper-Crampton funds. The Recreation Board and the District Attorney disagreed.

"That opinion was always a matter of control of areas, rather than a race question with us," said General Grant.

The NCPPC action puts the Recreation Department squarely in the middle on the segregated playground question. Last October, the Board of Education declared that the problem of segregated recreation in Washington school facilities is not its concern and told the Recreation Board to do what it liked with school space.

live Arthur G. Klein (D., N. Y.), in which Klein had demanded that the racial designation be abolished. General Grant declined to state what the commission discussed before it reached its decision.

Klein Lauds Action

He declared: "The commission never did fix a policy. I told Representative Klein on the subject of segregation that the commission is charged by the 1926 Act with making a comprehensive, consistent and coordinated plan for parks and playgrounds. It made that plan consistent with the situation as it existed at that time as to playgrounds and schools."

Representative Klein said last night that the commission's decision was a "victory for democracy."

Assistant Secretary of the Interior C. Girard Davidson said last night, when informed of the NCPPC action: "I am very glad the commission

At the last board meeting, the recreation unit received an offer from the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) to help with the Administration on a trial basis of small number of playgrounds on a nonsegregated basis.

This offer, rather than any general move to end segregation, is likely to win Recreation Board approval at next week's meeting.

NCPPC Ends Race Designations

Recreation Board Gets Choice On Playground Segregation

By Dorothy Andrews
Post Reporter

The District Recreation Board yesterday was given the power to eliminate racial segregation from Washington playgrounds.

"Whereas the National Capital Park and Planning Commission has announced it is removing all racial designations from its recreation system map, The Recreation Board has been guided by this map."

Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, 3d, commission chairman, said that in his opinion, the move "does not mean an end to segregation" on local playgrounds. It does make it an administrative matter, for decision by the agency which operates the playgrounds, he said.

wording of Resolution The formal resolution of the commission stated:

The Recreation Board has scheduled a meeting for May 10 at which it is to consider the problem of maintaining or ending segregation on school meeting facilities.

Last month, the Recreation Board declared as "open units" 18 local tennis courts, situated on Federal park lands, which previously had been operated on a segregated basis.

The action was taken in compliance with an Interior Department order.

Harry S. Wender, chairman of the District Recreation Department, has consistently maintained that the segregated system of recreation which the board operates was based on a law which adopted the NCPPC plan of recreation, providing dual facilities for whites and Negroes.

The Recreation Board now administers between 110 and 115 recreation units, both for whites and Negroes, during a given year. All are affected by the NCPPC action.

Capital Swimming Pool Closed; Five Held

WASHINGTON, June 30 — (AP) — A government swimming pool which had disturbances when opened to both white and Negro youths has been closed.

Secretary Krug of the Interior Department, which operates the pool, ordered it closed until further notice. He acted after a pool-side melee a second straight day yesterday.

Park police said hundreds were involved in the pushing and punching outside the Anacostia pool in Southeast Washington.

At least four youths were injured, one a girl trampled by a mounted policeman's horse. There were five arrests.

The Interior Department's order of a no-segregation policy at its four pools caused a rift with the District of Columbia Recreation Board. The board insisted segregation be continued.

Negroes have begun swimming at only one other pool, McKinley. There has been no trouble there.

Six Negroes Boobed Out of Anacostia Pool

Members of Race Deprived of Using Facilities 4 Times
Six Negro youths from 14 to 21 years old were splashed and boobed out of the Government-controlled

Anacostia pool yesterday, after swimming there for less than five minutes.

It was the fourth consecutive day in which Negroes have tried to swim in the pool, which until last Thursday has been used exclusively by whites.

The contract between the Interior Department and Government Services, Inc., which operates Anacostia and five other District pools, provides that anyone can swim in any pool regardless of race.

Hundreds Watch Eviction

Between 700 and 800 white persons of all ages witnessed the proceedings, with approximately 50 taking an active part in evicting the Negroes from the pool.

Admission fees were refunded to the seven youths by order of R. J. McCarthy, director of park activities for GSI. McCarthy insisted the Negroes be admitted, over the strong verbal protests of bystanders.

The first two Negroes to swim in the pool yesterday afternoon were James Gasha, 417 7th st. se., and James Hamilton, 510 E st. se., both 14. Shortly after jumping in, they were surrounded by a small group of white boys who splashed water into their faces and drove them to the side of the pool. There, a horseshoe of perhaps 50 booed until the Negroes left. Extra police help was summoned, but not used.

One hour later, four Negroes appeared in the pool, Kenneth Robinson, 20, of 2635 Bowen rd. se.; Eugene Scott, 14, 2521 High st. se., and Richard Cook, 21, and Carl Contee, 14, both of 2639 Bowen rd. se. A fifth youth did not swim. These swimmers were also splashed by persons jumping and diving into their midst. They left a few minutes after they arrived.

Last Thursday a small group of Negro children first tried to swim at Anacostia. They left before they entered the pool. Friday between 50 and 60 did swim in the pool. Saturday, a similar number started swimming. The lifeguards asked to be relieved, saying they feared they might not be able to handle disturbances.

Since the attempt to end segregation, the number of swimmers has fallen off sharply at Anacostia. Normally 1500 swimmers are handled daily, but the number has been "away off" since Thursday, McCarthy said yesterday. Although the six GSI-managed pools are unsegregated by law, in practice Negroes regularly use

Banneker and Francis pools, and until recently whites have used Takoma, East Potomac, McKinley and Anacostia.

Negroes have recently been swimming at McKinley, at 2d and T sts., ne., but the management there reported yesterday a "marked slump" in business.

All Negro youths at Anacostia yesterday said they had tried to swim in the pool because it was nearer their homes and they had read that the pool was supposed to be unsegregated.

D. C. Swimming Pools

Two weeks ago the Recreation Board announced a policy of gradual abandonment of segregation. We applauded this as a discreet but a statesmanlike compromise, likely to be criticized by both extremes. As specific steps away from segregation, the Recreation Board has placed two interracial playgrounds under the supervision of the Society of Friends and opened public schools and recreation buildings to interracial meetings. Both steps are supported by those elements necessary for orderly community adjustment. They were launched by the local agency in charge of recreation; they were adopted in an atmosphere conducive to general public acceptance; they will be carried out by staffs anxious to make them successful.

Just the opposite seems to us the case in regard to the Interior Department's insistence on immediate nonsegregation of swimming pools under its jurisdiction. The department's representative on the Recreation Board failed to win support of its position in the board. Instead of educational preparation to win public acceptance, the policy appears to the average citizen to have resulted from a disorderly fight between Federal and District government agencies. Instead of having a staff sympathetic to its policy and capable of carrying it out, Interior has no staff at all.

Despite these circumstances, the good sense of the great majority of our white and Negro citizens and the alert work of the Metropolitan and Park Police had kept disorders in the category of minor disturbances until fighting broke out yesterday in Anacostia. We hope that good sense will prevail—despite the provocations of Wallaceites and their counterparts, the bitter-end bigots. But, in view of what happened, the wise course for the time being is to do what Secretary Krug has just done—close the pool. The community also deserves more

thoughtful handling of its affairs at the policy-making level. In the past we have urged the Federal Government to take the lead in lowering segregation barriers, but when it does so it should obviously act in those fields where its responsibility is clear and facilities adequate. The Interior Department, along with other friends of orderly interracial progress, could properly insist that the Recreation Board honestly pursue its announced policy of making "every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in public recreation in such sequence and at such rate of progression as may be consistent with the public interest, public order and effective administration."

"D. C. Swimming Pools"

It does not appear that guard personnel sympathetic to this program or informing the white swimmers that this was a Government pool and therefore open to all people. The Civic associations, white and colored, in this community were asleep in this respect also. Disturbances like the above only come from a sore point or something being wrong. The point here was and is a lack of swimming facilities for the colored in the Southeast.

CHARLES E. QUALLS.
Washington
7-7-49
Prejudice can be wiped out only by honest, intelligent and forthright leadership in both, for that matter, in all races. Negroes must continue to have the patience of Job. They cannot tear down in one fell swoop the prejudice that built up century by century. There will be trying times for everyone until prejudice is uprooted but they can be lessened by courageous and unselfish leadership.

LOUIS R. FAULKNER.
Louisville, Ky.
White attacks upon Negroes at swimming pools are as much a form of violent overthrow of our Government as any Communist can advocate. Let us maintain existing laws against such violence. If the laws are bad; let us amend them by orderly processes of law.

DAVID DARRIN.
Washington
They, however, in the recent swimming pool disturbances in Anacostia, did not plan for this by having adequate police and

Interior Acts After Disturbance

Anacostia Swimming Pool
Ordered Closed Indefinitely

The Anacostia swimming pool was closed last night "until further notice," *The Post* reported.

The action was taken by Secretary of Interior Julius A. Krug after disturbances occurred at the pool on two successive days.

Special squads of Park and Metropolitan police surrounded the pool last night to prevent a recurrence of a disturbance during the afternoon which resulted in the arrest of five persons and the injury of three others.

No incident occurred in the pool during the 7 p. m. to 9 p. m. night session. Outside the pool, a crowd of white youths chased a white girl whom they believed to be a Wallaceite for several blocks until she was taken into protective custody by police. She was not immediately identified, but was released.

The afternoon disturbance was quieted about 5 p. m. after about 50 police reinforced an initial detail of eight officers. *Thu. 6-30-49*
It involved Negro and white youths milling about the pool area while about 10 Negro and 10 white boys and girls were swimming in the pool.

Capt. Mark H. Raspberry, head of the Park Police, said scuffling broke out when a group of 70 Negro youths entered the swimming pool inclosure at the park in midafternoon. About 100 whites were there at the time.

The disturbance started initially when a Negro boy was cornered by a group of white youths. The Negro cut himself scaling a barbed wire-topped fence enclosing the pool area. Police separated the Negroes and whites who then left the pools. Fighting then developed outside the pool inclosure.

When order was restored, three persons were treated as Casualty Hospital for minor injuries and at least five persons were under arrest. Captain Raspberry estimated that 450 persons were involved in the affair altogether.

The Anacostia pool is one of six operated by Government Services, Inc., under a contract with the Interior Department which forbids segregation. *Thu. 6-30-49*

Those arrested and booked at the Eleventh Precinct Station House were:

Donald M. Long, 20, 5424 32d st. s.e., a white student. He posted \$5 and elected to forfeit on the charge

of distributing anti-segregation handbills.

Joseph Jackono, 30, a white student. Posted \$5 collateral and elected to forfeit on the charge of distributing anti-segregation handbills. Jackono said he and Long

belong to the Young Progressives. Thomas Ralph English, 40, a white social worker of 3000 30th st. se. He posted \$5 collateral and elected to forfeit on the charge of disorderly conduct, apparently growing out of a scuffle with Jackono.

Toussaint P. Pierce, 22, a Negro student of 2564 Sheridan rd. se. He posted \$5 collateral on a charge of disorderly conduct and is to appear this morning in Municipal Court. Pierce said he was arrested by a mounted policeman after he picked up a brick.

A 16-year-old Negro juvenile, who was released in the custody of his parents pending any action Juvenile Court authorities might wish to take. Police said he was arrested during a scuffle.

Among those injured was Joan Sexton, 17, of 1725 16th st. se., a white girl, who suffered a fracture of two toes when her foot was accidentally stepped on by a mounted Park policeman's horse. She fell beneath the horse. She was treated at Casualty Hospital and admitted for observation.

The horse was ridden by Park Police Pvt. Powhatan Daniels, to whom witnesses gave much of the credit for quieting the disturbance as he rode between the two groups outside the pool. *Thu. 6-30-49*

Park Police Pvt. Julius Campbell, 32, Negro, of 920 T st. nw., was treated at Casualty for contusions of the right forearm and released. Police said he had been struck by a stone.

Charles Watson, 21, Negro, 1107 Sumner rd. se., was given first aid at the park building when he cut his leg and foot while climbing out of the pool inclosure over the wire fence.

Group of Friends Reports on 2 D. C.
Interracial Playgrounds

By Benjamin Bradlee
Post Reporter

A team of 14 American Friends Service Committee workers today wind up a summer operating two District playgrounds on an interracial basis.

Garfield Park, at 2d, 3d and G sts. se., and Rose Park, at 27th and O sts. nw., were run by an AFSC work camp, with the cooperation and approval of the District Recreation Department.

The object of the program was to prove that interracial recreation in Washington can be natural and harmonious.

On the plus side of the ledger, Work Camp Director Daniel Peacock, 29 year old Indiana Friend, yesterday listed these accomplishments:

1. Every recreation activity, from Mardi Gras parades to softball games has been interracial.

White Participation Rising

2. White participation rose from less than eight per cent during the first week to more than 13 per cent last week at Garfield Park in an area with an estimated 25 per cent white population, and in a playground once divided into white and colored sections. Garfield represented the more difficult problem. Peacock said there were fewer white children in the Rose Park—Georgetown area. Many of them spent their summers at private camps or summer homes. And Rose Park tennis courts had been operated interracially for many years.

3. Initial neighborhood hostility to the project was substantially overcome. Children of white parents, who signed a petition objecting to the interracial playground before it started, were playing there yesterday.

4. No violence occurred during the summer.

5. Some equipment, candy and supervisory services were voluntarily provided by white parents.

Shortcomings Listed

On the negative side, Peacock freely admitted these shortcomings:

1. Attempts to develop an interracial program in the Garfield wading pool were unsuccessful, although the pool was used inter-

racially at times.

2. Baseball games between white and colored players over 17 had to be abandoned, when they developed into grudge games after the colored team went undefeated for two weeks.

3. White groups sometimes used the Garfield facilities and refused to admit Negroes.

Progress toward ending racial segregation was achieved with difficulty. Garfield and Rose Park workers were consistently approached by white groups who urged abandoning of the project, sometimes threateningly. These groups were most vehement after racial disturbances at Anacostia pool.

Other Difficulties

Drunks, both Negro and white, occasionally interfered with recreational activities. A group of whites from 16 to 18 years old, claiming to be "maintaining the honor of this white playground" often tried to monopolize recreational facilities at Garfield, Peacock said. There was some neighborhood hostility because of the 14 Friend workers, only four came from Washington. Expansion and improvement of park facilities by the Friends was not approved by the Recreation Department.

Peacock said the Friends had learned two lessons during the summer. The younger the children and the more supervision they get," he said, the easier it is to achieve interracial recreation harmony."

At Garfield, Rose Park.

Lack Of Swimming Pools Hamper Colored Colleges

By EDWIN B. HENDERSON
For the NNPA News Service

Of the 90 colored institutions surveyed by Mr. Johnson, 82 had no aquatic facilities, yet every one of the 90 administrators expressed desire to have swimming in their physical education curriculum. The most up-to-date swimming plants among colored colleges are at Hampton and West Virginia State. Other colleges having swimming plants are Virginia State, Talladega, Tennessee A. and I., South Carolina State College and Howard University.

6-25-49
POPULAR AT HOWARD

Mr. Johnson describes the swimming program at Howard University in some details. Swimming at Howard is one of the most popular of sports. Approximately 1,000 students received swimming instruction at the university, which is small in comparison to the numbers in some other institutions. The courses follow very closely the pattern outlined by the American Red Cross. All physical education majors are required to take swimming.

During the 1947-48 swimming meet season, the various dual and other meets climaxed in a championship swimming meet in which West Virginia State College, Hampton, Howard and Tennessee A. and I. College took part.

Rumor has it that one of our larger state institutions is planning to build a larger and most modern natatorium. In states where other state institutions have swimming facilities, it is desirable and right that the means of education of colored students in swimming be equalized. Modern high schools in many cities have swimming pools. Swimming is a skill that affords great pleasure to the possessor, but what is more important is the fact that in this day of great ravel, over water hazards, the ability to swim may be the one phase of education that will enable the holder to live.

LACK OF FACILITIES

Most of the drownings here in Washington have been of colored boys. Much is due to the lack of supervised swimming opportunities. For the white population, there are close to half a hundred pools, indoors and outdoors. For the colored people, there are only two outdoor and two indoor. One of the smaller pools is at Dunbar

Daily World Atlantic
By Edwin B. Henderson Jr.
For the NNPA News Service

At St. Louis, Youngstown, Ohio and now in Washington, D. C. non-segregated swimming is causing disturbances. The insistence of colored citizens that they share equally in the opportunity- to swim in tax supported swimming pools is adding heat to the torrid summer weather

In Washington, there are six public swimming pools built from federal funds. They are operated by Government Services, Inc., a quasi-governmental agency. This agency provides the services of cafeterias in public buildings and for many other facilities on public grounds and buildings.

Under the strong liberal leadership of the Secretary of the Interior Department, there is established a policy that neither race nor color shall be a deterrent to the use of these government-owned operations for citizens of Washington or for those of you from around the nation or world who visit Washington.

For years, despite this liberal policy, no colored persons have sought to use the swimming pools generally attended by white people. During the past week, however, parents have been taking their children to and groups of adults have been entering the Anacostia and McKinley pools for swimming. As a result, the whites have, in fairly large numbers, been staying away, or assembling in threatening attitudes about the colored swimmers. Several minor disturbances have been broken up by Park police.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT MAINTAINS POLICY

Morning swimming hours are given over to free swimming by children, with guards and personnel furnished by the District of Columbia Department of Recreation, which is a bulwark of segregation in recreation. Recently in a 3-2 vote the Recreation Department has threatened to take away its personnel unless the Interior Department rules in favor of segregated swimming. But the Interior Department officials have refused to surrender to the local segregationists.

The present crisis has come about because colored mothers have finally rebelled against the local prejudice which has denied to their youth swimming under supervision in pools in their neighborhood and which has brought home many a dead son. In the four year period, 1945-48, 111 persons have been

drowned in Washington, of whom thirty-seven have been children, in the 5-19 age group. Of these 37, 29 or 78.4 per cent have been colored. All were males, of 13 drownings of junior high school youth, twelve were colored boys. And, practically all of these drownings have occurred in the Anacostia River and Kingman Lake, the unsupervised waters in the general area of the unsupervised pools. *Sal. 7-2-49*

Thus, the problem of free use of public facilities in the nation's capitol is linked with this attempt to break down color lines in swimming. Again we reiterate that what occurs in your nation's capitol is your concern out in the states. The question is whether, when you come to Washington, you should suffer the indignities and humiliations that race segregation brings when you seek to use publicly supported projects.

MOTHERS DETERMINED TO DECREASE WORRIES

Colored mothers are determined to decrease the worries about their children swimming in the unsafe rivers. They are tired of reading of the return home of a dead boy, who is as much a sacrifice to racial prejudice as though he were murdered by a sheeted band of cowards in Alabama, Mississippi, or Georgia seeking to perpetuate white supremacy.

All Negroes have been cautioned not to retaliate or reply to the insults hurled by the groups that have been encouraged to dramatize a return to segregation. Already that element in the "white" citizens associations which dominate is organizing resistance.

For a long time the Recreation Board of Washington has sought to secure control of federal recreation facilities in the parks, the golf courses, and the swimming pools. Their leaders have assured federal authorities that if they are given control they will operate the golf courses and other activities on the non-segregated basis. Their present action in this issue is all the proof needed that the composition of the present board is not to be trusted as to its promises.

As eventful as the swimming issues are, it is the hope of many that just as Americans, even in the South, have accepted Negroes in the major and professional sports they will learn to swim in the same pools. There must be no backward step.

ed youth, cut his leg and foot climb-
ing over the pool's wire fence. At
Eleventh Precinct Station lat-
er on, Donald Long, 20 and Joseph
Jackson, 20, both white, forfeited
\$5 collateral each on charges of dis-
tributing handbills.

**Question Comes Up
At Press Conference**
Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Some of the hand bills passed out earlier by a group of white pickets were signed "Young Progressives of A. L. Gerstein, Washington, D. C."

Observers said a group of whites dove small on July 9 in which is booted a white woman they said advanced education to defend had bought tickets for a group of "emotional repugnance" to-

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—President Truman last week declined to enter into the controversy over non-segregated use of six swimming pools in the District of Columbia, which are under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department and operated by Government Services, Inc., a quasi-government agency.

Police said last Wednesday's scuffling apparently started outside the pool, but gave no specific incident that touched off the mass arguing and booing. A tentative agreement on a formula for ending differences between the Interior Department and the District of Columbia Recre-

The question came up when a reporter asked Mr. Truman whether he had any comment to make on the disturbances at the Anacostia swimming pool.

The secretary of the Interior Julian Krug ordered the Anacostia pool closed last Thursday as the result of repeated clashes there, and it appeared that the segregation controversy might spread to five nonsegregated pools here.

The disturbances last Wednesday

Swim Pool Roundup

U.S. Bows Again to Jim Crow

The Courier
Washington, D.C.
(Special to The Courier)

WASHINGTON — The United States Government has once again bowed to Jim Crow traditions of the Washington, D. C. Recreation Board.

After taking direct action last week in closing down the Government-owned interracial Anacostia swimming pool after a series of racial disturbances which culminated with arrest of six persons and injury to four others, the Interior Department has now reached "an agreement" which will give the prejudiced board control of all public recreation facilities in Washington, including swimming pools and golf courses. *Sat. 7-9-49*

The board will also be given clear title to disputed playground areas.

In exchange for this brazen sell-out, the Recreation Board will furnish assurance "that it will work toward eventual elimination of segregation."

This is the substance of a formula for ending all the differences between the Interior Department and the D. C. Recreation Board.

And responsibility for the sell-out, which was agreed on over the week-end, is laid by Negroes here right smack in the lap of Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug.

It completely destroys the patient pattern of integration set up when Harold Ickes was Secretary.

The D. C. board recently announced a policy of making "every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in such sequence and at such rate of progression as may be consistent with the public interest, public order and effective administration."

But all those high-sounding words mean nothing. The board left intact its 1945 by-law requiring segregation.

Hints of this sell-out began to float around town Saturday after a conference between Interior heads, Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender and the District Commissioners.

MEETS JULY 12

"We have reached a substantial agreement which I hope the board will accept," Wender announced. He scheduled a meeting of the

board's by-laws committee for 11 A. M. Tuesday.

Proposals for by-law changes must be submitted seven days before the next stated board meeting. The board meets July 12.

The only chance for the nefarious scheme to be stopped will be a public demand from citizens throughout the nation. If sufficient pressure is brought on Secretary Krug, he can make to withdraw the Government's participation in the sell-out.

ABSOLUTE CONTROL

If the formula is accepted by the Recreation Board, it will take over control of nine golf courses, about eighty tennis courts, six swimming pools and city-wide recreation facilities in East and West Potomac Park, the Elipse, Anacostia and Rock Creek Parks.

This means an extension of Jim Crow. Knowing the board's vast attitude, there can be no doubt of this.

Last April, in response to pressure by the Interior Department, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission removed all racial designations from its recreation system map, which had been used as a guide by the Recreation Board.

The board earlier had complied with Interior orders to end segregation at tennis courts controlled by the department.

It also offered to continue Interior's non-segregation policy on golf links in return for a chance to operate the links.

Now in the sell-out deal, these gains stand to be lost, since the board's present attitude favors "a graduate abolition of segregation."

Hopes Held For Decision Soon in D. C. Pool Dispute

Compromise Plan Reported Fixed By Interior and Recreation Board

Interior Department and recreation board officials met yesterday on the swimming pool question and there appeared to be some prospect of a settlement, perhaps next week. *Post 4/12*

A. E. Demaray, associate director of the National Park Service

and top Interior negotiator, said a "compromise proposal" came out of the meeting and would be presented to Interior Secretary J. A. Krug on his return to the city Monday. *Sat. 7-9-49*

Demaray said he "would hope" the proposal would lead to reopening Anacostia pool, closed by Krug June 29 after a racial disturbance there. Demaray said the discussion yesterday was on the assumption the Recreation Board would take over complete control of all six Interior pools. They might be taken over immediately, he added, or not until next summer since Government Services Inc. is running the pool half of each day on a contract basis. The Recreation Board runs them the other half of each day.

Recreation Board Superintendent Milo F. Christiansen said the two groups were "closer together than we've been for a long time" but he would not discuss details of the meeting. He said he saw a possibility of some action at the next Recreation Board meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, if Krug acts Monday.

The District board has consistently contended it would take over the pools on its own terms only—that they be returned to segregated status, four white and two Negro.

Krug, however, has stated he would permit "no backward step" apparently meaning he would not permit Anacostia and McKinley pools, where mixed swimming has taken place this summer, to revert to segregated use.

25 Mothers Ask Krug to Reopen Pool to All Races

A group of about 25 white and Negro mothers from the Anacostia and Congress Heights areas yesterday asked Interior Secretary J. A. Krug to "reopen the Anacostia pool on a nonsegregated basis."

They presented a letter for Krug to National Capital Parks Superintendent Irving C. Root. The group said it expected "determined enforcement" of Interior's nonsegregation policy, with supervision "of an adequate and fully trained police force composed of both white and Negro officers, prepared to quell any attempted hoodlums."

Anacostia pool has been closed since June 29. Efforts to reach an agreement for turning it and five other Interior-controlled pools over to the District Recreation Board so far have failed.

Segregation's Toll

On August 16, as I was driving by Sherwood Playground at

9th and G st. ne. a little 5-year-old colored boy came dashing after my car and ran into the side of my car.

At the moment I asked his father why the boy was playing outside the playground and not inside. He answered that his little boy wants to play inside but is not being permitted because of the color of his skin. He said further that his little boy sneaks over and plays just outside on the narrow sidewalk, where he can be near the children, swings, and sand pile that he yearns to play with. It was from that narrow sidewalk that the child ran into my car.

Why must innocent children suffer and be hurt physically as well as emotionally by undemocratic policies in this heart of the world's democracy?

MILTON H. ARONSON.

Washington.

41a 1949

Florida

Florida City Council Okays Bathing Beach

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A bathing beach for Negroes at Maximo Point has been approved by the city council, and a special interracial committee has been appointed to develop plans for it. Members are the Rev. J. Wallace Hamilton, Dean Mohr, Edward McRae, Walter Rabeur and H. J. Polk.

Mayor Blackburn suggested that 50 acres be allotted. It is hoped the beach will be ready for use this summer, and that it will accommodate not only Pinellas county, but Tampa as well.

New Recreation Park Opens Near Ucala



While Park Manager Eddie Vereen looks on at left, Dr. E. C. Hampton, president of the Ocala Women's Federation and Convention, congratulates the Rev. Oliver Pinkston, representing the owners, on the opening of Paradise Park. The Rev. L. N. Anderson, vice moderator of the Second Bethlehem Baptist Association is at right. Paradise Park, an exclusive new recreation area, is seven miles east of Ocala. It features glass-bottomed boat rides, bathing, picnicking, and the world-famed Ross Allen Reptile Institute.

\$75,000 Pool for Negroes Completed at Marietta

With the completion of a sumptuous swimming pool valued at \$75,000 Marietta had founded out what city officials believe to be one of the best balanced educational, recreational and cultural programs in the nation.

The new swimming pool is equipped with one of the finest filtering systems available and its bath houses are considered models from both health and efficiency standpoint.

A 50x120-foot layout, it will be opened to Negroes of Marietta for the first time this Summer.

Still other recreational features of Marietta's program for Negroes is a recently completed Athletic field with bleacher seating accommodations.

The city further has graded and equipped new playground areas for its Negro population.

On the cultural side, two new Negro library units have been added. Educational-wise, a modern high school has been built.

A new 20-bed hospital is still another feature of the program.

In advancing the program city officials worked with Negro ministers, educators and civic leaders.

MARIETTA NEGROES GET \$75,000 SWIMMING POOL

The "big break" has come for Marietta Negroes who desire wholesome recreation and the great outdoors with the construction of a \$75,000 swimming pool and the extension of facilities for well-balanced educational, cultural and recreational programs.

The whole idea was launched by city officials with the cooperation of Negro ministers, educators and civic leaders. However, the whole community stands to benefit from the new program designed to fit the leisure time habits of Marietta citizens.

One commendable feature of the new recreational program is the new swimming pool equipped with one of the finest filtering systems available. For the convenience and comfort of swimmers a large bath-house has been added which will heighten the efficiency and protect the health of users.

A 50 x 120-foot layout, the whole plant will be opened this summer for the first time.

Yet Marietta is going even further in providing for the health and welfare of its citizens. An athletic field with bleacher seating accommodations will be an outlet for baseball, softball and next fall football activities.

Other playgrounds have been graded and equipped to further provide opportunities for play for all age levels and groups.

On the cultural side, two new Library units has been added. A brand-new high school, and a new 20-bed hospital. All of these features are designed for wholesome and better living and recreation activities for Marietta citizens.

New Negro Park Pool To Be Best Equipped

By HERMAN HANCOCK

The new \$300,000 Negro Park being built in the Pittsburgh area of Atlanta will have the only completely modern and mechanized swimming pool operated by the city.

That yesterday was the verdict asserted, "and we take periodic samples of water from the pools to make bacteriological tests. We have never yet found a bacterial count in excess of 100 per cubic centimeter, which is considered scientifically sterile."

Dr. Hackney said there is a suspicion that polio might be contracted from swimming, but that thus far none has been traced to Atlanta pools. He said typhoid definitely could be contracted from "dirty water," but added the City's typhoid record fails to bear out any suspicion that City pools have spread the disease.

He cited records of typhoid cases to bolster his contention. They follow:

No case of typhoid has been reported in Atlanta thus far this year. Other years showed: eight cases in 1948; 13 in 1947; one in 1946; six in 1945; three in 1944. The last year in which more than 15 cases were reported in Atlanta was 1936 when 17 were listed.

"We have been unable to trace a single case of typhoid to Atlanta pools," Dr. Hackney said.

Simons said he and those responsible for the operation of the pools have urged installation of water purification systems in existing pools, but the funds have not been available. He said such a system would not only be an insurance against contamination but also would conserve water, since the same water could be used over and over after being mechanically purified and chemically treated.

"We may not have the best facilities in the world, but we do have contamination-free swimming pools," Simons said. "We take every precaution possible to see that. When the new Negro

swimming pool is completed sometime about Aug. 15, it will be the only one properly equipped."

Negro Recreation Program Improving

Courier-Journal, Louisville, Ky. Aug. 5-16-49

Supervisor Stresses Need for Golf Course and Good Baseball Diamonds

When she had gotten her breath back after reciting her title, Mrs. Frances Murrell Parrish had many things to say that were important as well as interesting.

Mrs. Murrell is—and don't say we didn't warn you—"Supervisor of Activities for Negroes for the City of Louisville Division of Recreation."

Having thus disposed of enough breath to weaken even two-mile Gil Dodd, she began by saying that the Negro recreation program here has been improving considerably.

More Playgrounds.

This year, for instance, there are 15 playgrounds. That's twice as many as last year. Activities, too, have multiplied and improved to a point where the Negro program is on fairly solid footing.

She spoke slowly, afraid, it seemed, to convey the impression she was boasting over her own efforts.

Uphill Fight.

A modest, lively woman, she doesn't have to exaggerate. Figures and accomplishments for the last six years, her tenure of office, speak for themselves.

While she spoke, telling of the uphill fight for improvements and some of the happy results, she was careful not to leave the impression that the Negro program still has everything it needs.

There is, for instance, the big problem of getting a golf course. The city doesn't have a single one for adults who find other activities too strenuous or not appealing.

Making Progress

There also is need for improving tennis and swimming facilities and of providing several good baseball diamonds.

"The progress we've been making in our community center and playground programs has been extremely encouraging," said Mrs. Parrish, who studied at University of Chicago, Howard University, Michigan and Columbia. She

now is working on a master's degree.

"Softball, horseshoes, basketball and other activities have attracted several thousands to the program," she continued. "We could use more facilities, of course, but our problem there isn't any different from the one the recreation department as a whole faces all over the city."

Golf Lacking.

"What the Negro program here really needs badly is a golf course. Tennis fans only have one park—at Chickasaw. There are six courts there, but they rarely are in very good shape."

"Youngsters learning to swim—and people who like to swim—are limited to three months a year. That's about all the time one outdoor swimming pool is open. And there aren't any indoor pools."

Baseball Popular.

"The need for baseball fields also is extremely acute. There is one, technically, at Chickasaw, but it isn't very playable. Our youngsters and young men love baseball, and to really serve them we need more and better diamonds."

Mrs. Parrish, however, isn't discouraged. She is one of the most popular women in the Recreation Division and we can understand why.

She is an optimist, and attacks each problem with the conviction it can be solved.

Serve Community.

"We've made progress, and I don't think we'll slip back," she says. "Right now, Louisville is building a Negro recreation program that can serve the needs of the community. Given a few other facilities, and a little time, I believe we'll have a model program."

Her friends are betting she's right. *Louisville Ky.*

Negroes' Parks-Use Suit Is Filed In Federal Court

Newest Step In Long Segregation Row Here Initiated by Sweeney and 2 Other Plaintiffs

Federal Court was asked yesterday to determine the rights of Negroes to use Louisville City parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities.

This newest step in the long dispute over segregation policies was taken by Dr. P. O. Sweeney, Negro dentist, 524 W. Walnut, and two other plaintiffs. Their suit asks:

1. That the court rule on the rights of Negroes to share those parks playgrounds and the Amphitheatre in Iroquois Park which now are reserved solely for white persons.

2. That a permanent order be issued forbidding City officials from denying Negroes the privileges enjoyed by whites in those places. The defendants in this action are City Park Director T. Byrne Morgan, Mayor Charles Farnsley, and the Louisville Park Theatrical Association, which operates the Amphitheatre.

Joined with Sweeney as plaintiffs are Mona Carroll, 14, daughter of Alfred M. Carroll, 2530 W. Walnut, and James W. Muir, 1730 W. Walnut.

The suit is based on the 14th Amendment of the U. S. Constitution which guarantees citizens equal protection under the laws, and on certain sections of U. S. laws.

Couldn't Play Golf.

Three cases were built up recently for the purpose of the suit, the complaint reveals.

Dr. Sweeney applied at the Cherokee Golf Course July 21 and offered to pay the fees to play, but was prevented from playing and his fee was refused.

The Carroll child sought to fish in Cherokee Park Lake and was refused permission to fish or remain on the grounds.

Muir applied at the Amphitheatre for a ticket, the suit said, and was refused a ticket or the right to hear the show.

These denials were made arbitrarily and illegally, the suit asserts.

The suit says the City maintains for Negroes "five alleged parks with a total acreage of 153.81 and limits plaintiffs and other Negroes similarly situated, because of their race or color, to the use of these inadequate, unsanitary, and incomplete facilities."

23 Parks for Whites.

The City has 23 other parks of 2,267.5 acres, the complaint adds.

These, it continues, are "located to a great extent, in the beautiful outlying areas of the City of Louisville on premises naturally suited for recreation, and contain among other things, five golf courses of varying types, an amphitheatre, numerous pavilions, many acres of woodland, provisions for winter sports, such as skiing and ice skating, at least one lake for fishing, facilities for archery, and well-cared-for swimming pools and attendant facilities..."

The plaintiffs are denied all these facilities, the suit said.

In the decree asked for, the suit seeks to have declared as unconstitutional "the policy, custom, usage, and practice of establishing, maintaining, and operating modern, well-staffed, and equipped facilities for the recreation, entertainment, and athletic participation of white youths while at the same time limiting Negro youths to the use of old, dilapidated, poorly equipped, understaffed athletic, recreation,

By Larry Boeck and entertainment facilities on account of their race or color..."

First Suit Dismissed.

Sweeney filed a suit of like type in Jefferson Circuit Court in 1947. It was dismissed there and by the State Court of Appeals. July 5 was the last day the suit could have been appealed to the Supreme Court. Sweeney said he let the deadline go by deliberately so that the new suit could be filed.

Attorneys Benjamin F. Shobe and James A. Crumlin filed the Federal Court action. Shobe also filed the Circuit Court suit.

Federal Judge Roy M. Shelbourne told Shobe and Crumlin that a three-judge court would have to hear the plea for the injunction against the City officials. Another Federal District Court judge and a Circuit Court judge are required.

Shelbourne said he would write immediately to Judge Xen Hicks, Knoxville, senior member of the Sixth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, asking him to designate the latter two.

Minorities Still Need Police Protection

HURRIED inexorably along by federal court decisions and a growing public recognition of the injustices of segregation, many municipalities are voluntarily abolishing their restrictive rules against full Negro participation in community life. This newspaper applauds each instance of a removal of restrictions that is accepted in good faith by the majority of law-abiding citizens and it looks forward to the day when Louisville too will grant to its colored citizens the rights and privileges that community custom and state laws now ban.

But the recent experiences of St. Louis, Washington and Youngstown strengthen our contention that when such steps are taken without adequate preparation or community acceptance, the cause of racial friendship is set back, and ugly situations scar otherwise peaceful relations. In each of these cities violent scenes developed when Negroes attempted to use swimming pools ordinarily patronized only by whites. In Washington and St. Louis restrictive ordinances appear to have been lifted without warning or discussion and seemingly without provision of the extra police protection that common sense should have indicated would be needed.

Youngstown is one of the northern cities ostensibly free from segregation ordinances, but when a colored family attempted to use one of five swimming pools maintained by the city for common use, a threatening crowd drove the Negroes away and forced closing of the pool. Obviously the problem is not, as many individuals of both races have contended, one easy to solve by the simple waving down of obsolete and unfair barriers. Prejudice has deep roots in the human heart and mind and these cannot be eradicated simply by stating that prejudice is against the law. 7-1-49

The day certainly will come when Negroes and whites may play and swim together, as they do now in some cities, with no more friction than arises between any other human beings in close proximity. It is not here yet, except in areas where education and careful preparation have combined to produce acceptance of racial tolerance. The evidence is that no careful preparation preceded St. Louis' and Washington's impulsive lifting of restrictions and also that city authorities were dangerously careless, once the decision had been taken, about providing protection against hoodlumism for those who took advantage of the relaxation. We are, obviously, still far from the millenium if policemen are needed to enforce the rights guaranteed to minorities under the law. But it is better to admit we are not perfect than to incite riot and bloodshed on the assumption that perfection can be induced by signing a law.

Mississippi Negro Rural Center Dedicated



under construction, and is to be completed by mid-July.

HAS LARGE AUDITORIUM

The park, when completed, will contain a 2,700 seating capacity auditorium. This is to be the only city auditorium for Negroes in the Nation. *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

W. B. Fontaine, representing Governor Fielding L. Wright, who was absent because of illness, awarded the Carnegie medal to Henry McClain for saving the life of a fellow worker in 1944.



Contractor H. H. Wolfe (left at top) hands over the keys to directors at dedication of the Mississippi Rural Center for Negroes at Columbia. The directors at right are Isaac Pittman and his wife. The Center (bottom), a \$100,000 gymnasium, auditorium and community quarters, was built by women of the Methodist church for the Negroes of Marion county. Leaders of both races in the Methodist church gathered for the dedication ceremony. The Center is the first of its kind in the nation.—(AP Photos).

First Negro Park Dedicated in Miss.

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By DE LARS FUNCHES

JACKSON, Miss.—As scores of elementary and high school students looked on, the only park provided by a city in Mississippi for the use of Negroes was dedicated here last week. Mayor Allen C. Thompson was speaker.

Addressing more than 3,000 adults, Mayor Thompson pointed out the many improvements being made throughout the city in Police protection, fire protection, and in recreational facilities. *Sat. 6-4-49*

"In this city," he said, "there is an equal opportunity for each of you regardless of color, race or origin. It depends on you."

NAMED COLLEGE PARK

The facility, named College Park, occupies thirty acres which is adjacent to Jackson College, and Hill-Reynolds Junior High School.

Responding to Mayor Thompson's address, President Jacob L. Reddix of Jackson College, said: "In dedicating this park, the Negro citizens along with all of the citizens of Jackson, realize the implications of the tremendous opportunity that we have for the development of a better city."

A recreational building, a wading pool for children, see-saws, swings and barbecue unit have been completed. A \$150,000 swimming pool is

The St. Louis Lesson

To the Editor:

St. Louis tried it, and it didn't work.

The city of St. Louis opened its parks and two municipal swimming pools, hitherto segregated, to Negroes. The result was a riot in which a Negro who took his family into one of the pools was told he would have to leave or his children would be drowned.

After that incident there continued for a few days a series of sporadic attacks by Negroes on whites and vice versa. Mayor Darst of St. Louis restored the segregation law.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, a new committee on race relations is in the making. It will consist of 15 members when completed. Those already installed represent Protestant, Catholic, Jewish religious organizations, labor unions, sundry Negroes and civil leaders.

The Negro population of St. Louis is relatively much smaller than other cities farther south, being quoted in 1940 as slightly over 13 per cent. That percentage may or may not have grown but it still remains far smaller than the average of 40 per cent or more for cities in the Deep South.

So in appraising the attempt to abolish segregation in St. Louis one can regard that city as being on "middle ground" so far as the North and South are concerned.

Therefore, if a city of the comparatively neutral character of St. Louis, with the small percentage of non-white population it has, fails so conspicuously to abolish race barriers by law, how much less hope there should be for legal abolition in states like Alabama, Georgia or Louisiana!

Doubtless the movement in the Missouri city was inspired by idealistic and sincere persons; but they were misguided to the extent that they failed to rightly interpret the wishes of the public. No legal measures, regardless of how theoretically just they may be, can succeed unless they truly reflect the desires of the majority of the citizens who must obey them. The law, it has been remarked, should seek to convince, not to compel.

STANLEIGH MALOTTE.

RACIAL ISSUE CLOSES SWIMMING POOL FOR A DAY IN OHIO CITY

Youngstown, O., June 23 (AP)—Racial conflict forced the closing of one of Youngstown's six city-operated swimming pools late yesterday. But park commission members said all of the pools will be placed in operation again today.

Nathaniel C. Lee, Negro, member of the community relations committee of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People and his three children entered the east side pool. A crowd of 1,000 other swimmers milled around and threatened the father and his children.

Race Dispute Closes Pool

YOUNGSTOWN, O. — (AP) — Racial conflict forced the closing of one of Youngstown's six city-operated swimming pools.

Park commission members said all of the pools will be placed in operation again.

Nathaniel C. Lee, Negro, and his three children entered the East Side pool. A few moments later most of a crowd of 1,000 other swimmers milled around. Lee was warned, police reported, to leave or "see your children drowned."

41a 1949

New Darlington Center

came Sat. 7-23-49
DARLINGTON, S. C. (ANP)—
An informal program opened the
new \$20,000 recreational center for
Negroes here last week. The build-
ing was constructed of concrete
blocks from a fund raised in pub-
lic subscription.

South Carolina

41a 1949

Gov. Tuck Releases \$65,000 For Negro State Park Project

Richmond, Jan. 24 (AP).—
Governor Tuck today released an
appropriation of \$65,000 to start
development of a State park for
Negroes at Prince Edward Lake,
near Farmville, in a move to equal-
ize the State's park facilities.

The money came out of the
State's general supplemental cap-
ital outlay appropriation of \$1,200,000.

William A. Wright, director of
the State department of conserva-
tion, said the allotment is part of
a development program now in
progress that will cost \$195,000.

In his request for the allotment
Wright noted that the \$195,000
program now in progress is satis-
factory to counsel for the Negro
citizens who have litigated in the
Federal courts a move to force
the State to provide equal State
park facilities.

Plans call for construction of
six cabins now in addition to the
water and sewerage system. Later,
it is planned to construct a res-
taurant building, a boat dock, a
large bathhouse, additional pic-
nic areas, rest rooms, and for
incident help and some roads.

\$300,000 Negro Play Project Proposed for Arlington

A 10-acre recreation area for
Arlington Negroes, with every-
thing from a swimming pool to
picnic area, was proposed yester-
day by the County Recreation
Department.

It would cost approximately
\$300,000 to build the facility on
a now county-owned and owned
land on Nelson Road, S. E. Min-
or Road, and Pine Run in the
Green Valley section.

The recreation area would
be only one of its kind for Negroes
in the country.

It would offer softball and base-
ball diamonds, a picnic area, park-
ing lot, swimming pool with bath-
house, football field, and a small
children's playground.

Its field house would be built in
three stages, the first providing
storage rooms, office space, and
space for handicraft work. Later
additions would offer two small
assembly rooms and a large room
for meeting purposes.

Recreation director W. A.
Richard admitted that most of the
funds are not now available.

He said the department is
presenting the proposal before Arling-

Virginia

Detroit Negroes Want Lake Site To Build Resort

Detroit, April 29 (P)—A group of Detroit Negro business and professional men today announced plans to develop a mile-long Negro resort on the Canadian shore of Lake St. Clair.

Retired heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis is a member of the syndicate negotiating for purchase of the property from a Detroit family.

The site is near Stoney Point, three miles east of Belle River, Ont. It will be known as "Canadian Riviera," according to the group, and will become one of the Negro showplaces of America. The property consists of 150 acres and a nine-room house.

Irving Roane and John White, co-owners of the Gotham Hotel here, said the syndicate has put up 60 per cent of the purchase price and expects to close the deal by May 15-20-25.